

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. Kindly cancel claims 8, 44, 51, and 60, and amend the claims as follows:

**STATUS OF THE CLAIMS:**

1. cancelled
2. (previously presented) An isolated polypeptide which has at least one bioactivity of an ACE-2 polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence having an amino acid identity of at least 90% with the entire amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2, wherein at least one of His374, His 378, and His417 are any amino acid other than histidine.
3. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 2, which is a mammalian polypeptide.
4. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 3, wherein the polypeptide is a human polypeptide.
5. cancelled
6. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 4, which is encoded by a nucleic acid having the nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 1, with a mutation resulting in a variant where at least one of His374, His 378, and His417 are any amino acid other than histidine.
7. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 6, which has the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2 with a mutation resulting in a variant where at least one of His374, His 378, and His417 are any amino acid other than histidine.
8. cancelled
9. cancelled
10. (currently amended) The isolated polypeptide of claim ~~8~~16, which binds an ACE-2 target peptide.
11. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 10, which binds angiotensin I.
12. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 11, which lacks the ability to hydrolyze angiotensin I into angiotensin (1-9).
13. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 10, which binds kinetensin.

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14. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 13, which lacks the ability to hydrolyze kinetensin into kinetensin (1-8).
15. (currently amended) The isolated polypeptide of claim 816, which is encoded by a nucleic acid which hybridizes to a nucleic acid having the nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 1 or a complement thereof.
16. (previously presented) An isolated polypeptide which has at least one bioactivity of an ACE-2 polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence which is at least 90% similar to at least 50 consecutive amino acid residues of SEQ ID NO: 2 and which has a bioactivity of an ACE-2 polypeptide, wherein at least one of His374, His 378, and His417 are any amino acid other than histidine.
- 17-43 cancelled.
44. cancelled
45. (previously presented) An isolated polypeptide which has at least one bioactivity of an ACE-2 polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence having an amino acid identity of at least 90% with the entire amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2, wherein at least one of Glu 375, Glu 402, and Glu 406, are any amino acid other than glutamic acid.
46. (currently amended) The isolated polypeptide of claim 4445, which is a mammalian polypeptide.
47. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 45, wherein the polypeptide is a human polypeptide.
48. cancelled
49. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 47, which is encoded by a nucleic acid having the nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 1, with a mutation resulting in a variant where at least one of Glu 375, Glu 402, and Glu 406, are any amino acid other than glutamic acid.
50. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 47, which has the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2 with a mutation resulting in a variant where at least one of Glu 375, Glu 402, and Glu 406, are any amino acid other than glutamic acid.
51. cancelled
52. cancelled

53. (currently amended) The isolated polypeptide of claim 5954 , which binds an ACE-2 target peptide.
54. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 53, which binds angiotensin I.
55. (currently amended) The isolated polypeptide of claim 5954, which lacks the ability to hydrolyze angiotensin I into angiotensin (1-9).
56. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 53, which binds kinetensin.
57. (currently amended) The isolated polypeptide of claim 5954, which lacks the ability to hydrolyze kinetensin into kinetensin (1-8).
58. (currently amended) The isolated polypeptide of claim 59 54, which is encoded by a nucleic acid which hybridizes to a nucleic acid having the nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 1 or complement thereof.
59. (previously presented) An isolated polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence which is at least 90% similar to at least 50 consecutive amino acid residues of SEQ ID NO: 2 and which has a bioactivity of an ACE-2 polypeptide, wherein at least one of Glu 375, Glu 402, and Glu 406, are any amino acid other than glutamic acid.
- 60 cancelled